

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7958

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMCONSUL MILAN

AMCONSUL NAPLES

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 1822

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, IT, AU

SUBJECT: SOUTH TYROL/ALTO ADIGE SEPARATISM

REF: ROME 3563 (NOTAL)

1. MFS SOUTH TYROL DESK OFFICER PARAK TOLD EMBOFF MARCH 2 THAT QUESTION OF SELF-DETERMINATION FOR SOUTH TYROLEANS CAME UP DURING CONVERSATION OF SOUTH TYROL'S AUSTRO-GERMAN LEADERS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BIELKA FEBRUARY 27 ON ITALIAN IMPLEMENTATION OF SOUTH TYROL AUTONOMY PACKAGE (VIENNA 1740). DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT QUESTION WAS RAISED BY ITALIAN SENATOR BRUGGER IN MEDIA INTERVIEWS LAST AUGUST, AT WHICH TIME GOVERNOR OF AUSTRIAN TYROL WALLNOEFER SAID HE, TOO, WOULD DEMAND SELF-DETERMINATION FOR SOUTH TYROLEANS IF COMMUNISTS CAME TO POWER IN ITALY (75 VIENNA 6886). IN FACT, WALLNOEFER SAID HE HAD BEEN LOOKING INTO LEGAL RAMIFICATIONS OF MATTER EVEN BEFORE BRUGGER SPOKE.

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2. PARAK SAID SOUTH TYROLEAN LEADERS TOLD BIELKA THEY

WOULD ACCEPT ANY DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT IN ITALY THAT
GUARANTEED PRESENT TREATY AND CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS
FOR SOUTH TYROLEAN AUTONOMY BUT WOULD NOT ACCEPT ANY
AUTHORITARIAN GOVERNMENT IN ROME WHATEVER ITS POSITION
ON AUTONOMY. PARAK SAID SOUTH TYROLEANS' POSITION
REFLECTED SAME HISTORICAL COMMITMENT TO CONSERVATIVE,
DEMOCRATIC TRADITION THAT HAD MANIFESTED ITSELF IN
SINGULAR LACK OF ENTHUSIASM ALL TYROLEANS DISPLAYED FOR
FASCISM AND NAZISM. IN EVENT OF COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT
IN ITALY, PARAK SAID THAT GOA WOULD THEREFORE
ANTICIPATE DEMAND FROM SOUTH TYROL'S AUSTRO-GERMANS
FOR PLEBISCITE, WHICH HE SAID HAD BEEN CONSISTENTLY
DENIED THEM AND THAT GOA WOULD BE UNDER VERY STRONG PRESSURE
THROUGHOUT AUSTRIA TO SUPPORT THEIR DEMAND.BUCHANAN

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